Dear Howard, 7/6/74

Things remain chaotic. Walter and Agnes, whose visit we have enjoyed, are leavin; this afternoon. Jim is coming today or tomorrow. A buff you do not know (I think) is coming Monday. And I can't find things. Especially the file of recent correspondence with Paul and what he sent. Do you recall where you left it? It may be under my nose, but that is how confusing the present situation is.

Paul had done a magnificent job on the right pages of Ford's book, so good I'm going to take quite a few pages for it unless Jim objects strongly. I can't use it in the form he did it but Walter and I have figured out a good substitute.

Bill Martin phoned Friday or Thursday. Dick is away for a while. It seems that there has been a kind of communications breakdown. Dick may have told me what I do not recall. It also seems that he planned to offer the book to a major for original publication, not just distribution, but I am not certain that Martin was certain on this. He and I agreed on the various problems as I outlined them to you, re distribution, success, etc.

He will be in touch after Dick returns some day next week.

His idea is that the book should be broken down into

Government and Politics

Personal (about Nixon)

White House

Nixon the man, possibly those arounf him, etc. Some kind of totality. Cant read my notes and the tape I made with his permission for you broke off at the end so I'm not sending it because the repair job is too great.

He understands our feeling and is not unsympathetic to it.

He seems to agree with me that the best prospect is not for initial mass-market.

There is more that I do not have time for. I've been working my way through the transcripts book text (15 to go). You were quite helpful.

I've discussed this with Walter. He is going to take the xerox back with him, have his assistant make a copy, and return one to you. The assistant will then make a preliminary estimate after reading.

Bill is inclined to agree with me that a better approach is to make a preliminary inquiry into the preferences of any mass-marketer so that the end product can be closer to his preferences and not edited in a way he might not prefer.

There was another part of the Walters-Colson taping yesterday. It confirms my analysis even more so any clips you have relating to that overall and very Byzantine operation will be much appreciated.

Thanks for all your qyite valuable help.

Hasty best regards,